

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) A virtual fab comprising:
a design database including design information for designing semiconductor devices;
a network coupled to the design database and adapted to communicate with a customer;
and
a design coordination engine, coupled to the network, to track changes in the design information that impact the manufacture of a semiconductor device for the customer;
wherein the design coordination engine includes a tracking module that determines if the customer has accessed the design database within a predetermined time period; and
wherein the design coordination engine includes an alert module that alerts the customer if a change in design information occurred during the predetermined time period.

14. (Original) The virtual fab of claim 13 wherein the customer accesses design information from the design database to design a semiconductor device.

Claims 15 and 16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) The virtual fab of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the design coordination engine determines the latest time that the customer has accessed design information that has been changed.

18. (Currently Amended) The virtual fab of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the alert module verifies that the customer has not been alerted of the same design information change before.

19. (Original) The virtual fab of claim 13 wherein the design coordination system includes an appraisal module.

20. (Original) The virtual fab of claim 13 wherein the design database include a design building block sub-database.

21. (Original) The virtual fab of claim 13 wherein the design database includes an associated technology sub-database.

22. (Original) The virtual fab of claim 13 wherein the design database includes a customer design profile sub-database.

23. (Previously Presented) A virtual fab, comprising:
a design database including design information for designing semiconductor devices;
a network coupled to the design database and configured to communicate with a customer; and
a design coordination engine coupled to the network and configured to track changes in the design information that impact the manufacture of a semiconductor device for the customer, wherein the design coordination engine includes:
a tracking module configured to determine whether the customer has accessed the design database during a predetermined time period;
an alert module configured to alert the customer if a change in design information occurred during the predetermined time period; and
an appraisal module.

24. (Previously Presented) The virtual fab of claim 23 wherein the design information is configured to be accessible by the customer via the design database to design a semiconductor device, the design coordination engine is configured to determine the latest time that the customer has accessed design information that has been changed, and the alert module is configured to verify that the customer has not previously been alerted of the same design information change.

25. (Previously Presented) The virtual fab of claim 23 wherein the design database includes:
a design building block sub-database;
an associated technology sub-database; and
a customer design profile sub-database.

26. (Previously Presented) A virtual fab, comprising:
a design database including design information for designing semiconductor devices,
wherein the design database includes:
a design building block sub-database;
an associated technology sub-database; and
a customer design profile sub-database;
a network coupled to the design database and configured to communicate with a
customer; and
a design coordination engine coupled to the network and configured to track changes in
the design information that impact the manufacture of a semiconductor device for the customer,
wherein the design coordination engine includes:
a tracking module configured to determine whether the customer has accessed the
design database during a predetermined time period;
an alert module configured to alert the customer if a change in design information
occurred during the predetermined time period; and
an appraisal module;
wherein the design information is configured to be accessed by the customer via the
design database to design a semiconductor device;
wherein the design coordination engine is configured to determine the latest time that the
customer has accessed design information that has been changed; and
wherein the alert module is configured to verify that the customer has not previously been
alerted of the same design information change.